

Summer Study

2024 – Session Four



TOGETHER

I can't see me lovin' the Lord without you

For all my life

When you're with me, I know that He is there, too

For all my life

Me and you, and you and me

No matter what this life will bring, I know we'll see

That He is working all for good for you and me

So HAPPY TOGETHER

Review from:

Week One

Week Two

Week Three

Summer of '24

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So HAPPY TOGETHER

Our Position – Past Tense

- Dead in trespasses and sins in which you once walked
- Following the course of this world
- Following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience
- Among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh
- Carrying out the desires of the body and mind
- Were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind

Our
Position –
**Present
Tense**

But God,....
made us alive
“together”
with Christ!!

All Suffer Together

All Rejoice Together

But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵ that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. (1 Corinthians 12: 24 b – 26)

What our Culture has to say:

I have no “need” of you!

The “weaker” parts are dispensable!

Strive to earn the greater honor!

Self reliance is a good thing!

Don’t ever be a burden to anyone!

Stay away from “messy” people!

Control your emotions!

WE ARE TOGETHER!

We are no longer alone!

We have been made alive together with Christ!

We are a part of a body!

We no longer have to be self-reliant.

We no longer need to fear being a burden to others.

Psalm 133

1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

2 It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!

3 It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

Jesus in John 17

20 “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, **so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.**

Enemies of Unity

- I'm right, your wrong!
- Needing to agree on everything
- Inability to listen
- My way or the highway!
- Unforgiveness
- **Pettiness**



And now for

Week Four!



Romans 12: 3 - 5

3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Romans 12: 6 - 8

6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; 7 if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Do you see the purpose of the Body?

Serving

Teaching

Exhorting

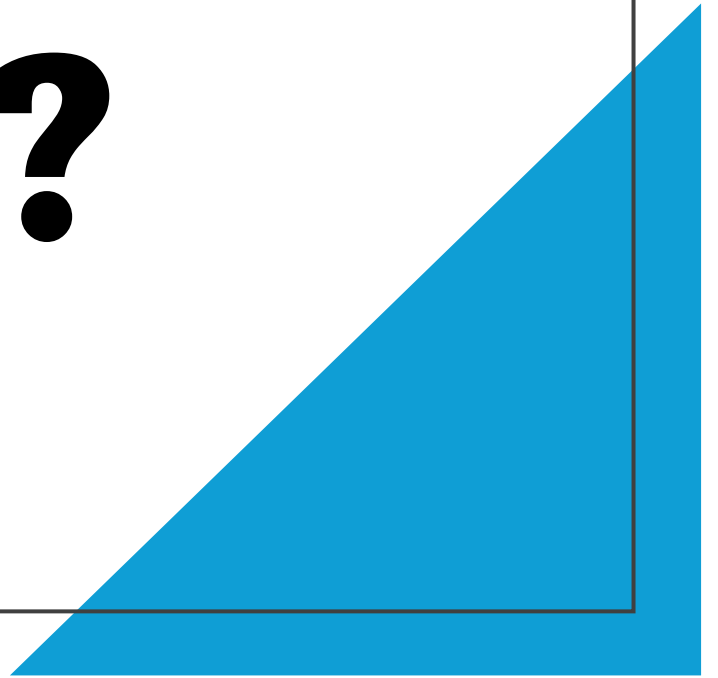
Contributing

Leading

Acts of
Mercy

**Do you
see how
effective
that
makes**

**The
Body?**



**But do
you see
how we**

huddle up with those
who either have a
similar gifting or how
we avail ourselves to
only one segment?

**The
Sad
Truth
Is, We:**

**Don't
Particularly
Care for
“DIFFER”
ENCES**

The Body **DESPERATELY** needs **ALL OF IT!**

Serving

Teaching

Exhorting

Contributing

Leading

Acts of
Mercy

**Just
like we
need...**

- The Eye
- The Ear
- The Head
- The Feet
- And Everything
Else!**

I must ask this,

do you

REALLY

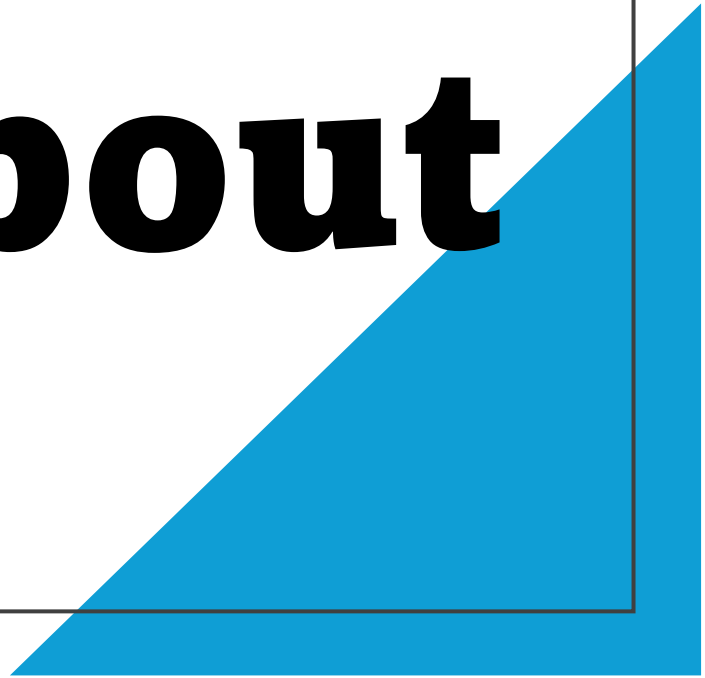
believe that?

What does our culture believe?

- Oh, contributing is most important! That means you have \$\$\$!
 - Oh, serving is most important! That means you have time!
 - Oh, leading is most important! That means we're lost without you.
 - Oh, teaching is most important! That means you're smart!
 - Oh, exhorting is most important! That means you're courageous!
 - Oh, acts of mercy are most important! That means you're kind!
-

A Story

To Think About



Next Week: II Corinthians 12: 7 – 10

7 So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. 8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. 9 But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Discussion Questions

What are your thoughts about what Paul had to say regarding the different gifts that people have?

How aware are you of your own unique gifting? Do you like how you are gifted?

How do you typically respond when you are around someone whose gifting is different than your own?

Is there any chance you have avoided people who have different gifts than your own? Is it possible you really missed out on something?